

REMARKS

This paper preliminarily amends the claims of the application in order to more distinctly claim the invention. With this paper, the pending claims are claims 1-37, including new claims 30-37.

With this paper the claims are amended by replacing "characterized" with "comprising." Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment does not affect the scope of the claims. See MPEP § 2111.03 (the transitional term "comprising" is synonymous with "characterized by"). The claims are also amended to remove reference numerals, which also does not affect the scope of the claims. See MPEP § 608.01(m) (the use of reference characters is considered as having no effect on the scope of the claims). Also, the claims are amended so as not to recite "step of" in any of the claim elements.

In addition to the changes to the claims as originally filed, new claims 30-37 are added to the case. New claims 30 and 31 recite limitations corresponding to those recited in originally filed claims 10 and 20. New claims 32 and 35 also recite limitations corresponding to those recited in originally filed claims 10 and 20. New claims 33 and 34 correspond to original claims 11 and 12. New claims 36 and 37 recite limitations in original claims 20 and 21.

It is believed that all of the claims of the application are in condition for allowance and their passage to issue is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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